UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Callahan

DATE: 4-22-68

FROM : J. P. Dunphy

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re memoranda Mr. Rosen to Mr. DeLoach dated 4-5-68 and 4-15-68.

On 4-5-68, General Investigative Division, requested preparation of artist's conception drawing of unknown subject who shot Martin Luther King, Jr., on 4-4-68 in Memphis, Tennessee. Bureau approved this request and on evening of 4-5-68, [redacted], and [redacted], Exhibits Specialists, proceeded to Birmingham Office. On 4-6-68 they interviewed two witnesses, E. L. Mathew Baker and Donald F. Wood, Aero Marine Supply Company, Birmingham, who had sold rifle and scope found at crime scene.

Two drawings were made. The one prepared by [redacted] was selected by witnesses as looking most like man who bought rifle. (Item 1)

[redacted] and [redacted] then proceeded to Memphis Office on evening of 4-6-68 at request of SAC Joseph H. Gamble, Birmingham.

Since witness Ralph Carpenter, York Arms Company, 162 S. Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, who sold binoculars which were found at crime scene was not available for interview at that time, [redacted] and [redacted] each made a drawing using a photograph of a Memphis Agent previously selected by Carpenter as resembling man who purchased binoculars from him.

Enclosures (14)

1 - General Investigative Division (Enc. 14)

GCM:bdb (3)

Enclosures

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While waiting to interview Carpenter, [redacted] and [redacted] talked with several persons who live at rooming house where subject rented room at 422 1/2 S. Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, with negative results. No one at rooming house could give sufficient information to permit preparation of a drawing.

Robert G. Jensen, SAC, Memphis, asked [redacted] to return to Birmingham to interview new witnesses who had seen subject when buying rifle. [redacted] went to Birmingham on 4-8-68 and prepared two drawings after talking to witnesses John Dennis Hanners, John DeShazo, Mrs. Francis Brown and John Michael Kopp. Majority of witnesses selected one drawing as best likeness. (Item 2) [redacted] returned to Memphis on 4-10-68.

SA [redacted] Memphis, accompanied [redacted] while obtaining street maps, building plans, etc., of pertinent areas in Memphis.

On 4-9-68 witness Carpenter was shown drawing prepared by [redacted] based on photograph of Memphis Agent. After some changes were made, witness stated drawing was a good likeness. (Item 3)

Mrs. Brewer, manager, Mr. Stevens and Mr. Anschutz, tenants of rooming house, were shown this drawing. They were unable to say it resembled subject.

Arrangements were made to have U. S. Corps of Engineers make aerial photographs of crime scene area on 4-10-68. Negatives, contact prints and enlargements were made and delivered to Memphis Office on same day.

Polaroid photographs were taken of buildings at crime scene on 4-11-68. These photographs show entrances from 410 to 424 S. Main Street, Memphis. A composite photo-diagram was made from these photographs. (Item 4)

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A second floor plan diagram of rooming house was prepared using aerial photographs and measurements taken at the scene. (Item 5)

A plan view diagram of crime scene showing location of rooming house and Lorraine Motel where King was shot was prepared using aerial photographs as guides. (Item 6)

Location points and labels were placed on a map of Memphis to show relationship of crime scene to York Arms Company, Rebel Motel and Oliver-Rexall Drug Store. (Item 7)

Copies of these items were made for use of Memphis Office.

Inspector Joseph A. Sullivan asked [redacted] and [redacted] to evaluate information to date regarding drawings made in Memphis and Birmingham.

Inasmuch as consolidation of the three versions of drawings into one seemed unlikely, due to conflicting statements made by witnesses, Inspector Sullivan instructed [redacted] and [redacted] on 4-12-68 to hold up until other information was developed.

On 4-14-68 a drawing was prepared by [redacted] from information obtained from [redacted] This interview was conducted in the presence of [redacted] Memphis Police Department. Witness stated drawing was a very good likeness. (Item 8)

[redacted] and [redacted] departed Memphis for Atlanta on 4-15-68 at request of SAC Jensen. Photograph of suspect Eric Starvo Galt, received in Atlanta from Los Angeles on 4-16-68, showed him with eyes closed. (Item 9) Copies of this photograph were used by [redacted] and [redacted] in producing four different versions by retouching to show eyes opened.

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